



H.R. 3332 – Kalaupapa Memorial Act of 2007

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3332 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Mazie Hirono (D-HI) on August 2, 2007. The House Natural Resources Committee amended the bill prior to floor consideration.

H.R. 3332 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House of Representatives on February 12, 2008.

SUMMARY

The bill would authorize the establishment of a memorial for those people who were forced to relocate to Kalaupapa Peninsula from 1866 to 1969. The memorial must be located within the Kalaupapa National Historical Park in Hawaii and paid for by Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, a non-profit organization.

BACKGROUND

The Kalaupapa National Historic Park was established in 1980 to preserve the memory of and the lessons learned from Kalaupapa village, where hundreds of people infected with Hansen's Disease, also known as leprosy, were exiled. Father Damien, whose bronze statue sits in the U.S. Capitol, is known for his devoted care to these individuals prior to his death in 1889.

The settlement was opened in 1866 by "An Act to Prevent the Spread of Leprosy," which was passed by the Legislative Assembly and signed by King Kamehameha V. The law was repealed in 1969. A number of surviving patients still reside in Kalaupapa.

The national park covers more than 8,000 acres of land and 2,000 acres of water.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not scored this legislation.

STAFF CONTACT

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